

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
15 January 2004 (15.01.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/004474 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A23B 7/00**,
B65B 29/08, 25/04, B65D 65/38, 081/34

[AU/AU]; RMB 22, Redcliffs, Victoria 3496 (AU).
MINTER, Andrea [AU/AU]; RMB 22, Redcliffs, Victoria 3496 (AU).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/AU2003/000883

(74) Agent: **GRIFFITH HACK PATENT & TRADE MARK ATTORNEYS**; 509 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004 (AU).

(22) International Filing Date: 9 July 2003 (09.07.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2002950053 9 July 2002 (09.07.2002) AU

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **FRESH CONCEPTS CORP. PTY LTD** [AU/AU]; PO Box 802, Irymple, Victoria 3498 (AU).

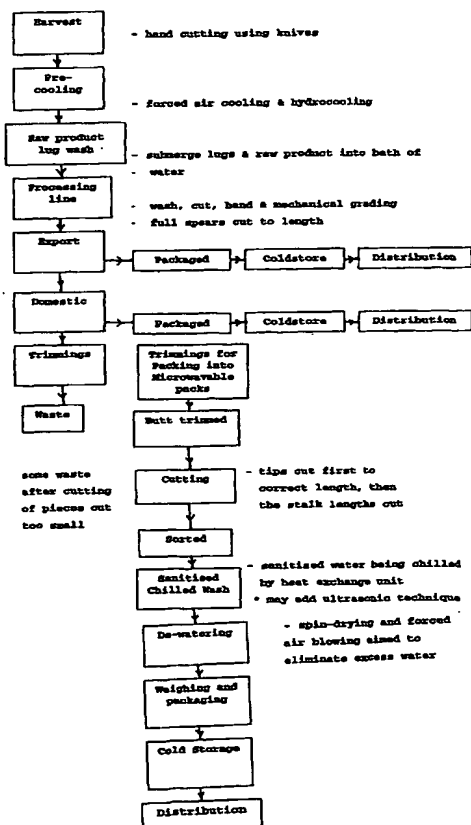
(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **MINTER, Robin**

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MICROWAVABLE PACKAGING OF FRESH PRODUCE



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method of packing a fresh produce, such as for example, asparagus, in a package which prolongs the shelf life of the fresh produce to up to 6 weeks or more. The fresh produce is treated before being packed in the package. The package is microwavable so that the fresh produce can be cooked whilst remaining in the package. The advantage of the method and package of this invention is that the fresh produce is located within the package from farm to plate so that the package can be used to transport and store and produce as well as cooking the produce.



ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

Published:

— *with international search report*

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU03/00883

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTERInt. Cl. ⁷: A23B 7/00 B65B 29/08, 25/04 B65D 65/38, 081/34

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 WPAT, A23B 7/00 B65B 29/08, 25/04 B65D 65/38, 081/34, key words STORAGELIFE or STORAGE LIFE, 5 D
 PACK+, MICRO?WAV+, MICRO WAV+

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Derwent Abstract Accession no:2002-503102/54, Class A92D13, JP 2002068320 A (SUMITOMO BAKELITE CO LTD) 8 March 2002. Abstract	1-39
X,Y	US 4224347 A (WOODRUFF) 23 September 1980. Whole document	1-39
X,Y	Derwent Abstract Accession no: 2001-512542/56, Class Q34, NL 1013691 C (BEHEERMAATSCHAPPIJ BARBE BV) 30 May 2001. Whole document	1-39

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C☒ See patent family annex

- * Special categories of cited documents:
- | | |
|---|--|
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date | "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
| "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | "&" document member of the same patent family |
| "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | |

Date of the actual completion of the international search
3 September 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

9 SEP 2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU

AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE
 PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA
 E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au
 Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929

Authorized officer

SARAVANAMUTHU PONNAMPALAM
 Telephone No : (02) 6283 2070

Information on patent family members

PCT/AU03/00883

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report			Patent Family Member				
JP	2002068320 A	NONE					
DE	2924914 A	US	4224347 A	AU	48272/79 A	CA	1105317 A
		FR	2429152 A	GB	2026841 A	IL	57612 A
		IT	1120440 A	JP	55029992 A	NL	7904897 A
		BR	7903905 A	ES	481828 A		
NL	1013691 A	NONE					
END OF ANNEX							